

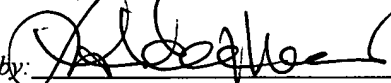


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4812-5036-61201 CERTIFICATE OF MAIL (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 7, 2006.

by: 

Laura Lee Mosier

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Stephen P. MANGIN, *et al.*

Application No. 10/696,845

Filed: October 29, 2003

For: Apparatus With Visual Marker For Guiding
Deployment Of Implantable Prosthesis

Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: PRONE, Christopher D.

Date: February 7, 2006

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits herewith patents and publications which may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. While this Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to draw the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references cited on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A. In accordance with 1273 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 1, 8/5/2003, no copies of U.S. patents and U.S. published applications are enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and MPEP § 609 and consideration of the foregoing plus the prompt return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/8A with the Examiner's initials in the left column in accordance with MPEP 609 are respectfully requested.

This information disclosure statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97(b) as being filed before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits and therefore no fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Bachand', is written over the printed name and firm name.

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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached. **8 Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231.